IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) Ramjet engine [(3) incorporating] comprising a combustion chamber [(10) ending in], a gas-ejection nozzle [(13)] provided at an end of said combustion chamber, a cruising propulsion [unit (11)] means for feeding [liquid] gaseous fuel into said combustion chamber, [and] at least one air duct [(4) which feeds] means for feeding combustion air [intended for the combustion of said fuel] into said combustion chamber, [wherein said ramjet engine contains] a rigid tubular element [(7) whose interior volume is divided into two spaces (9, 10) by] an intermediate transverse partition means for dividing said tubular element into two spaces [(8),] in such a [way] manner that one [(9)] of said spaces houses said cruising propulsion unit [(11), while] means and the other space [(10)] houses said combustion chamber [(13, 14)], and [while] passages [(12) are] cut in said intermediate transverse partition [(8) to allow] for feeding of [liquid] said gaseous fuel into said combustion chamber [(10) and], wherein said air duct means is mounted on said tubular element so as to feed the combustion air through the tubular wall of said tubular element [(7)], said tubular element is made of a composite material composed of resistant fibers coated with a polymerized synthetic resin and includes insert means for enabling an attachment of an end of said at least one duct means to the

tubular element in a vicinity of said combustion chamber, wherein pyrotechnic fuse means are provided for cutting openings in said combustion chamber through which openings said at least one air duct (means) communicates with the combustion chamber, and wherein (said inserts) are shaped so as to act as cutting knives to cut the wall of the tubular element upon actuation of the pyrotechnic fuse means.

Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice or disclaimer.

---

3. (Amended) Ramjet engine according to [either of claims] claim 1 [or 2], wherein said intermediate transverse partition [(8)] is [made] directly unitary with said rigid tubular element [(7)].

4. (Amended) Ramjet engine according to [either of claims] claim 1 [or 2], wherein said intermediate transverse partition [(8)] is [made unitary with] joined to said rigid tubular element by [means of] one of [the two assemblies formed by] said cruising propulsion [unit] means and [by] said combustion chamber.

5. (Amended) Ramjet engine according to [any] one of claims 1 [to], 3 or 4, wherein[, of the two assemblies formed by] at least one of said cruising propulsion [unit]

means and said combustion chamber[, at least one] is formed within said tubular element [(7)].

6. (Amended) Ramjet engine according to [any] one of claims 1 [to], 3 or 4, wherein[, of the two assemblies formed by] at least one of said cruising propulsion [unit] means and said combustion chamber[, at least one] is constructed as a module[,] positioned[,] and attached in said tubular element [(7)].

Q12

7. (Amended) Ramjet engine according to [any] one of claims 1 [to], 3 or 4, wherein said tubular element [(7)] is constructed around at least one of [the two assemblies formed by] said cruising propulsion [unit] means and said combustion chamber.

8. (Amended) Ramjet engine according to claim 7, wherein [said assembly or assemblies is or are] at least one of said cruising propulsion means and said combustion chamber are ready for use and are incorporated into the tubular element [(7)] during [the] a construction of [this latter] the tubular element.

9. (Amended) Ramjet engine according to claim 7, wherein [said assembly or assemblies,] at least one of said cruising propulsion means and said combustion chamber are

made of a composite material[,] and are polymerized at the same time as said tubular element.

[Please cancel claim 10 without prejudice or disclaimer.]

11. (Amended) Ramjet engine according to claim [10] 1, wherein [the inserts (18) designed to attach the ends of said air ducts (4) into said tubular element (7) in the vicinity of the combustion chamber,] said insert means are [made] unitary with said intermediate transverse partition.

12. (Amended) Ramjet engine according to [any] one of claims 1 [through 11] , 3 or 4, wherein said combustion chamber [(13, 14)] contains a consumable accelerator [(16)].

[Please cancel claim 13 without prejudice or disclaimer.]

14. (Amended) Missile incorporating a ramjet engine [such as that described in any] according to one of claims 1 [through 13] , 3 or 4.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-9, 11, 12 and 14 remain in the application for consideration by the Examiner.

Reconsideration of this application in light of the